

# FLOWERING LAWNS

## in Minneapolis Parks

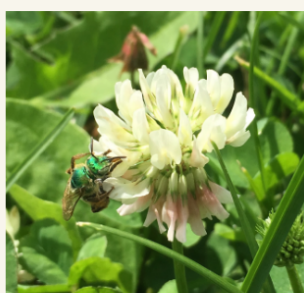
The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board is collaborating with the University of Minnesota to research flowering lawns as a concrete way to increase nutritional resources for bee pollinators in urban areas.

Do flowering lawns support a diversity of bees?  
What do park visitors think of flowering lawns?

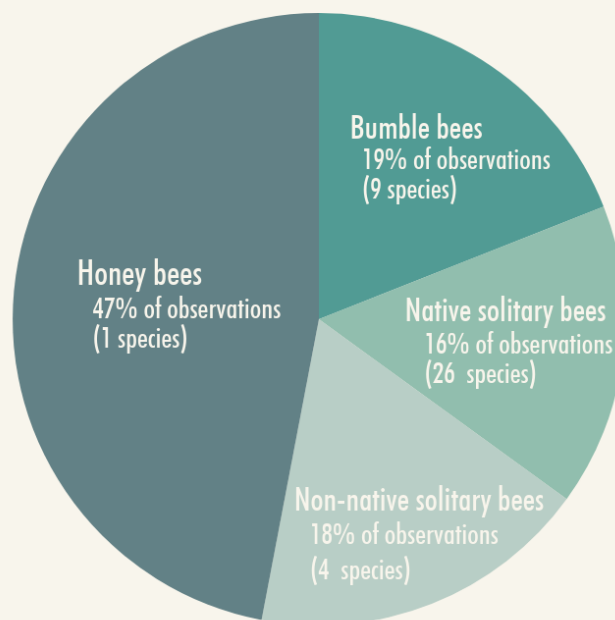
The populations of many bees are declining, in part due to lack of food availability. Adding low-growing flowers to turf grass lawns can provide food for bees and maintain recreational opportunities.

**White clover** (*Trifolium repens*) is already common in lawns throughout Minneapolis.

In 2015 and 2016, researchers from the U of M Bee Lab found that...



### Proportion of bees observed on white clover in Minneapolis Parks (2015-2016)



**40** species of bees forage on white clover in Minneapolis parks

## Enhanced Flowering Lawns & Bee Diversity

In late fall 2016, we planted **enhanced flowering lawns** with a mix of several flowers at four Minneapolis parks.

Once fully established, they will include calico aster, creeping thyme, lanceleaf coreopsis, and self-heal, as well as white clover.



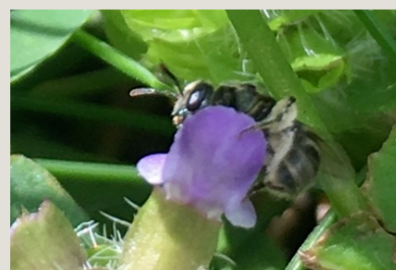
Self-heal and white clover



Minneapolis parks with enhanced flowering lawns

Preliminary results from 2017 suggest that **increasing floral diversity can lead to greater bee diversity.**

Some native bee species, like *Melissodes bimaculata* & *Osmia pumila* (pictured), were only observed in parks where self-heal bloomed.



*Osmia pumila*